

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to NOT support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will not increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me a substantial number of local TV channels via satellite in my market area. They will also be a text book perfect monopoly. As Adam Smith said, monopolies are what happens when government fails and are the death knell of a capitalistic economy. Instead of allowing this merger, the FCC should be looking at ways to create a better enviroment for new competitors.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, but the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in increased competition in the broadband market at the cost of ending all competition in the satellite market. Once all choice is taken away from consumers, the only barrier from abusive, monopolistic activities by this mega-corp, will be the good will of the mega-corp's CEO and board. That has not been working out to well for alot of consumers/victims/shareholders lately.

Please stop this jugernaught of mergers and the creation of the most powerful obliarchy ran country in the world.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Paul Duke
12575 SE Huron St
Clackamas, OR 97015